

## LITERARY NOTES.

Mrs. Louisa Alcott has been writing down the pleasant record of her life for "The Youth's Companion." She calls it "The Story of My Childhood," and in it she gives various reminiscences of the young Emersons and Hawthornes at Concord.

The first volume, "Wieland," of David McKay's new edition of Charles Brockden Brown's novels, appeared this week. The edition of five hundred sets will be complete in six volumes.

The following epigram, written on a halfsheet of note paper, has been found attached to the fly leaf of a copy of Forster's "W. Savage Lander," 1860:

"The 'Last Days of Pompeii.'

It ought so damping and so dull were As these 'last days' of Dandy Bulwer, And had been cast upon the pluvious Rockies that issued from Vesuvius, They would no more have reached Pompeii Than Rome or Tuscum or Veii.

W. S. LANDOR.

Mr. T. A. Trollope writes in an enthusiastic way of the charm of Charles Dickens's manner. "This," he says, "was a charm by no means dependent on his genius. He might have been the great writer that he was and yet not have warmed the social atmosphere wherever he appeared than that summer glow which seemed to attend him. His laugh was brimming of enjoyment. There was a peculiar humoristic quality in it when recounting or hearing anything specially absurd, as who should say, 'You my soul, this is too ridiculous!' This passes all bounds, and bursting out afresh as though the sense of the ridiculous overwhelmed him like a tide, which carried all before it with it, and which I well remember. His enthusiasm was boundless. It entered into everything he said or did. It belonged doublets to that amazing fertility and wealth of ideas and feeling that distinguished his genius."

It is said that among the letters and presents from strangers that the late Mrs. Crook received what pleased her most was a gift from an anonymous donor of a gold pen-holder wherein was inscribed, "John Halifax."

The Convention on Copyright, which has been signed by the representatives of Great Britain, Germany, Spain and Switzerland, Tunis and Siberia, will come into force on the fifth of next month. It places an author, composer or artist generally, belonging to any one of the countries named, in a position of equality, as regards the copyright of his works, with that author, composers and artists generally of any of the other countries. That is to say, an English writer will be able to circulate his books in France under the same conditions as a French writer now circulates his. As regards translations, the copyright is to extend over ten years from the completion of the original publication, while in the case of anonymous or pseudonymous works the publisher will be entitled to protect rights belonging to the author. The rule as to books will apply also to periodicals and newspapers for which copyright is claimed; but in the latter instance protection is not accorded to news or to "articles of political discussion." Photographs, it may be noted, are to be protected in countries where they are recognized as works of art, and "chorographic" works are ranked with "dramatic musical." The Convention will not interfere with instances in which certain parties to it have made special arrangements with each other, whenever those arrangements are more favorable to authors and others than those contained in the Convention. "The London Globe" says: "One nationality in particular is conspicuous by its absence—namely, the United States of America—and until that is included the Convention can be regarded only as a partial blessing. It is to be hoped that before long, the conscience of the American people may be aroused on this subject, and that it will no longer defend the policy of plunder by which its own authors are so grievously injured."

## BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

**THE STORY OF AN ENTHUSIAST TOLD BY HIMSELF.** By Mrs. C. V. Jamison. 12mo, pp. 360. (Boston: Ticknor & Co.)

**KATHARINE'S SECRET.** By Kathleen O'Meara. 12mo, pp. 223. (Harper & Brothers.)

**BOYS AND MASTERS.** By A. H. Gilkes. 16mo, pp. 233. (Longmans, Green & Co.)

**TWELVE TIMES ONE.** Illustrative of Child Life. By Mary A. Lathbury. 16mo. (Boston: Tuckerman & Co.)

**RECOLLECTIONS OF A WANDERER'S LIFE.** By George Davis. 12mo, pp. 400. (Boston: H. K. Houghton.)

**LYRICS, IDYLLS, ROMANCES FROM THE POETIC AND DRAMATIC WORKS OF COLEBROOK BROWNING.** 16mo. pp. 187. (Globe, Miller, & Co.)

**BIBLIOGRAPHICAL ACCOUNT OF ENGLISH THEATRICAL LITERATURE.** By Robert W. Lowe. 16mo. pp. 356. (J. W. Boutell.)

**SOPHIES STORIES.** By Albert H. Frey. 8vo, pp. 212. (Boston: Ticknor & Co.)

**DAMON'S GHOST.** By Edwin L. Bryson. 16mo, pp. 313. (Boston: Ticknor & Co.)

**UNFINISHED WORLDS.** A Study in Ascension. By S. H. Parkes. 16mo, pp. 220. (London: Parker & Co.)

**SEASIDE ROMANCES.** By Arthur E. Stanley. D. D. 16mo, pp. 157. (Charles Scribner's Sons.)

**HYPNOTISM.** By Edward Suzor. 12mo, pp. 231. (Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co.)

**GODTFRED'S FAUST.** Translated by John Anster. 16mo, pp. 298. (Boston: Ticknor & Co.)

**HIS WAGS AND HOWLS.** By a Foreman. 16mo, pp. 220. (Boston: Harper & Brothers.)

**CAPTAIN McDONALD'S DAUGHTER.** By Archibald Campbell. 12mo, pp. 330. (Harper & Brothers.)

**COMPLETE GERMAN MANUAL.** By Webster C. Sawyer. 16mo, pp. 317. (Chicago: John C. Buckner.)

**GO.** By Sir Walter Scott. 12mo, pp. 507. (Boston: Gray & Co.)

**WHATSOEVER IS.** By George A. Young. 8vo, pp. 312. (Boston: George H. Doran.)

**HAROLD MELVILLE'S PROPHET.** 18mo. (Harper & Brothers.)

**THE STORY OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN.** By Elbridge S. Brooks. 8vo, pp. 312. (Boston: D. Lothrop Co.)

**FIFTEEN YEARS IN THE CHAPEL OF YALE COLLEGE.** 1874-1886. By Noah Porter. 16mo, pp. 413. (Charles Scribner's Sons.)

**OLD HOMESTEAD POEMS.** By Wallace Strode. Large 16mo, pp. 163. (Harper & Brothers.)

**A HISTORY OF THE INQUISITION IN THE MIDDLE AGES.** By Henry Charles Lea. In three volumes. Vol. I. 8vo, pp. 583. (Harper & Brothers.)

## MEDICAL NOTES.

**SUDDEN AND COMPLETE LOSS OF HAIR.**—An account of a curious case appears in the proceedings of the Clinical Society of London, in which the hair, falling and leaving none, etc., etc., the family and personal history were singularly interesting. The cause of his "Grazing" has to have been a money difficulty; for three months and a half this played upon his mind, and at the end of this time the hair of his head began to come out and was all gone in four days. In a day or so later the rest of his hair began to be shot, and in four days—or ten days from the commencement of the first shedding—the whole hair of the head, face, chest, body and limbs had entirely disappeared. At the present time there is not a single hair to be seen anywhere. The hair of the man was particularly thick and strong before the calamity, and of a chestnut color.

**CHRONIC TEA POISONING.**—Dr. Ballard gives, in the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal, the details of a very curious case appearing in the proceedings of the Clinical Society of London, in which the hair, falling and leaving none, etc., etc., the family and personal history were singularly interesting. The cause of his "Grazing" has to have been a money difficulty; for three months and a half this played upon his mind, and at the end of this time the hair of his head began to come out and was all gone in four days. In a day or so later the rest of his hair began to be shot, and in four days—or ten days from the commencement of the first shedding—the whole hair of the head, face, chest, body and limbs had entirely disappeared. At the present time there is not a single hair to be seen anywhere. The hair of the man was particularly thick and strong before the calamity, and of a chestnut color.

## New Publications.

**HARPER & BROTHERS, New-York,**

PUBLISH THIS DAY:

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VI.

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VII.

HISTORY OF THE INQUISITION OF THE MIDDLE AGES.

By HENRY CHARLES LEA. To be completed in three volumes. Vol. I. Origin and Organization of the Inquisition. 8vo, pp. 580, published this day. Vol. II. Court, 16mo, out-of-print.

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No comprehensive history of the Inquisition, based on the results of modern scholarship, has yet been attempted, although the subject is one of the highest interest, not only to the general reader, but also to the student of civilization and the philosophical inquiry into the aberrations of the human conscience. No writer on the Inquisition hitherto has had the patience to investigate the social, the spiritual, and the intellectual condition of medieval Christendom, and of which an accurate development of the forces at work, as well as a necessary development of the ecclesiastical institutions which for so many centuries fought, with more or less success, to hold the human mind. No one, moreover, is fitted for the execution of such a task who is not tolerant to the point of tolerating intolerance—who cannot recognize that the wise and good could conscientiously believe it to be their highest duty to God and man to exterminate at any cost all shades of belief and to compel all varieties back to the path of salvation. Yet such ignorant spirit need not blind the inquirer to the evil wrought in the conviction that it was good, nor to the crimes through which the ambitions of prince and priest sought the accomplishment of their ends by the use of the terrible weapons placed in their hands by the most unfeeling and unscrupulous ecclesiasticism.

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